

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1027

By Berke

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Marcia Kling upon her selection as the American Lung Association of Tennessee's 2008 Tennessee Woman of Distinction.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly pause in their deliberations to salute those citizens who, through their remarkable efforts, have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, on May 6, 2008, the American Lung Association of Tennessee will present the 23rd Annual Women of Distinction Awards and will name Marcia Kling as the 2008 Tennessee Woman of Distinction; and

WHEREAS, a long-standing tradition, the Woman of Distinction Awards are granted to women who have distinguished themselves through their professional career accomplishments and their dedication to the community through their numerous and valuable civic and philanthropic endeavors; and

WHEREAS, a Woman of Distinction is one who "volunteers her time to help improve the quality of life for others, establishes standards that inspire and encourage other women to achieve their full potential and provides leadership and influences decisions that shape and define [their] city, state, and nation"; and

WHEREAS, a leader in the journalism industry, Marcia Kling serves with acumen and alacrity as the Life Watch reporter for WTVC NewsChannel 9; and

WHEREAS, through her significant contributions to television and community service, Mrs. Kling, known by her admirers as "Miss Marcia," has influenced the lives of at least two generations of Chattanoogaans; she educated Chattanooga baby boomers from pre-school age on *Romper Room* and *Fun Time*, wrote and produced *Nifty Nine* for adolescents, lent her talents

to a Sunday WEEKEND afternoon program on community news, and currently reports on issues of concern to a senior population in her Life Watch reports on *This'N That*; and

WHEREAS, a native of Peekskill, New York, Mrs. Kling studied theater and speech at Maryville College, worked as the Director of Christian Education at Northside Presbyterian Church, and taught fourth and fifth grades at St. Jude's School until the birth of her first child; and

WHEREAS, she has worked with uncommon devotion and zeal to improve the quality of life of the fine citizens of Chattanooga, participating in numerous organizations throughout the years, including the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults, the Salvation Army, the Ronald McDonald House, the Cherokee Council of Boy Scouts of America, the Choral Arts Society, the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Speech and Hearing Center, the Roueché Chorale, and The American Cancer Society; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kling has served as the master of ceremonies for various benefits, such as the fashion show for Hutcheson Spotlight and the awards banquet for Chattanooga Brain Injury Society; and

WHEREAS, a passionate supporter of public education, Mrs. Kling was given a Life Membership in the PTA and is an ardent supporter of the Chattanooga Center for Creative Arts; and

WHEREAS, Marcia Kling is an active and devout member of the Second Presbyterian Church, which she serves as an ordained elder and has participated in the Chancel Choir; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and honors, she has received the Pilot Club's 2001 Woman's Community Service Award, the Mary Lou Wojick Memorial Angel of Giving Award presented by the Partnership for Families, Children, and Adults, the 1982 Sertoma Service to Mankind Award, and the 1997 American Lung Association's Chattanooga Women of Distinction award; and

WHEREAS, diagnosed with cancer of the tongue in 1974, Marcia Kling demonstrated great courage and perseverance as she spent months re-learning to speak and swallow; an articulate broadcaster, she was, and continues to be, an inspiration to all those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, in 1988, Mrs. Kling received the American Cancer Society's Courage Award, and President Ronald Reagan spoke of her courage in a Rose Garden reception on the American Cancer Society's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary; and

WHEREAS, her many professional and civic accomplishments aside, Marcia Kling is most grateful to share both love and companionship with her husband of nearly fifty years, David Kling, and is the proud mother of John David and Maria; she also enjoys spending time with her grandchildren, Trey and Weatherly; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Kling epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; she takes her place among the many noble citizens who have earned this State the nickname of "The Volunteer State"; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State of Tennessee, the strength of our communities and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people like Marcia Kling, who use their considerable talents and resources to serve others; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby congratulate Marcia Kling on being named the 2008 Tennessee Woman of Distinction by the American Lung Association of Tennessee, recognizing her outstanding record of volunteerism, leadership and community spirit, and extending to her our best wishes for every continued success and much happiness.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.